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GOVERNOR DAVIS REAPPOINTS COMMISSIONERS TO THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ON SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gray Davis today announced the reappointments of Michael J. Balaoing, Donna A. Bojarsky, Julie E. Bronstein, Kenneth A. Casarez, Victor Griego, Hyepin C. Im, Darlene K. Kuba, Kenneth E. Martinet, Sharon O'Rourke, Ruth A. Reid, Robert Riley, Dr. John D. Welty, and Mae C. Woo as Commissioners of the Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV).

Mr. Balaoing, 34, of Los Angeles, has been a Commissioner since 2000, and is Vice President of The Entertainment Industry Foundation. The Entertainment Industry Foundation is the philanthropic voice of the entertainment industry and awards \$25 million annually to critical social issues. Mr. Balaoing has a broad repertoire of experience in youth and family social service, multicultural leadership development, and non-profit management. Before joining the Foundation, he worked with The California Wellness Foundation, Los Angeles County Children's Planning Council, and the Family Violence Division of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office. Mr. Balaoing was also a field deputy to former State Senator Art Torres. He studies in the Philippines through Harvard University, and earned a bachelor of arts degree from Princeton University, and a juris doctorate degree from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Ms. Bojarsky, of Los Angeles, has been a Commissioner since 2000, and has been involved in public service since a very young age. She is the founder and Co-Chair of L.A. Works, a non-profit, public action and volunteer center in Los Angeles. Ms. Bojarsky formerly served on the National Board of City Cares of America, a national organization, representing 26 network cities organizing and promoting volunteer service. She is a founder and Co-Chair of the local New Leaders Project, a unique civic training program for young Jewish leaders. Ms. Bojarsky was also appointed to the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission, where she formerly served as a Vice-Chair. She earned a bachelor of arts degree from Brandis University.

GO SERV 222

Ms. Bronstein, 35, of Thousand Oaks, has been a Commissioner since 2000, and has participated on the Child Welfare Committee of The Entertainment Industry Foundation and the New Leader's Project, and served on the board of the Santa Monica College Association. She is Director of Public Policy and Programs for Verizon. Ms. Bronstein earned a bachelor of arts degree from Scripps College, and a masters of public administration degree from the University of Southern California.

Mr. Casarez, 42, of Cameron Park, has been a Commissioner since 2000, and has a background in organizing volunteers and union members. He is the international representative for the Laborers' International Union of North America. Mr. Casarez represents nearly 70,000 union members in California and Hawaii. During his tenure, he has developed and maintained relationships with corporations, employers and local community groups.

Mr. Griego, 47, of South Pasadena, has spent much of his life working to empower residents, activists, and organizations in communities throughout Southern California. He understands community service from the perspective of organized labor. Mr. Griego is the owner of Diverse Strategies for Organizing, and is responsible for mobilizing thousands of volunteers, organizers, and community leaders. He formerly served as the staff director for the Hotel Restaurant Employees Union. Mr. Griego earned a bachelor of arts degree from Whittier College.

Ms. Im, 36, of Bellflower, has been a Commissioner since 2000, and is President of Korean Churches for Community Development. Prior to that, she served as a venture capitalist for Renaissance Capital Partners and as sponsorship manager and community gifts manager at the New California Science Center. Ms. Im has also served as the President of the Korean American Coalition and is a member of the Pacific Council on International Policy and a former fellow for the German Marshall Foundation. She has been a frequent speaker at numerous events on leadership, community service, and on the Asian American Community.

Ms. Kuba, 46, of La Crescenta, is the president of Kuba and Associates. Her company provides a variety of services in developing extensive outreach networks to projects, which are seeking a wide range of government and public community participation. Ms. Kuba has extensive contacts with labor unions, businesses, and public officials. For many years she was a senior aide to the late Los Angeles City Councilmember Gilbert Lindsey. Ms. Kuba earned a bachelor of science and bachelor of arts degrees from California State University, Los Angeles. In addition, she earned a masters in public administration degree from California State University, Northridge and a doctorate in public administration from the University of La Verne.

Mr. Martinet, 61, of Glendale, has been a Commissioner since 2000, and is the President and CEO of Catholic Big Brothers Big Sisters, serving over 4,000 youth and volunteers of all faiths. In this position, he works with various local agencies in the development of volunteer and mentoring services. These include the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the Los Angeles County Probation Department, the Los Angeles County Office of Education, the Los Angeles Unified School District and several other school districts, the City of Pasadena, AmeriCorps, and the Los Angeles Archdiocese Youth Employment Program. Mr. Martinet has also aided in community development by collaborating with the United States Department of Juvenile Justice, the State of California Mentoring Initiative, and GO SERV.

GO SERV 333

Ms. O'Rourke, 54, of Playa Del Rey, has been a Commissioner since 2000, and is the Public Affairs Manager for the Southern California Gas Company, and has served the company for over 30 years. In her current position, she manages local public affairs, including supporting and working closely with many community-based organizations. Ms. O'Rourke is also a member of the Korean Youth and Community Center and Project New Hope. She earned a bachelor of arts degree from California State University, Los Angeles.

Ms. Reid, 55, of McKinleyville, has served in many community service-related positions. She is the Director of Donor Services for the Humboldt Area Foundation. She has previously served as the program director for the Volunteer Center of the Redwoods, as well as the program director for the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Ms. Reid is a member of the local Volunteer Center. She earned a bachelor of arts degree from the University of California, Berkeley and a California Standard Teaching Credential from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Mr. Riley, 55, of Manhattan Beach, has been a Commissioner since 2000, and is the Executive Director of the Beach Cities Health District in Redondo Beach, a government entity that works with the County of Los Angeles and 42 community based organizations. The Beach Cities Health District serves the health needs of 120,000 people. He also heads the Terraden Corporation, a real estate development firm in Southern California. Mr. Riley held other local government positions including, City Manager and Director of Labor Relations for the City of Redondo Beach. He is a member of the Salvation Army and the Association of California Healthcare Districts. Mr. Riley earned a bachelor of arts degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a master of business administration degree from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Dr. Welty, 58, of Fresno, serves as the President of California State University, Fresno, which is a university with more than 20,000 students and 1,100 instructors. He has stimulated the development of service learning experiences in the curriculum and developed several community service programs for students including Fresno Reads and programs within specific neighborhoods. Dr. Welty earned a bachelor of arts degree from Western Illinois University, a master of arts degree from Michigan State University, and an Ed.D. from Indiana University.

Ms. Woo, 70, of San Francisco, is a strong advocate of community service and was first appointed to the Commission on Improving Life Through Service in 1996. She spends a considerable amount of time doing community service in the San Francisco area. Ms. Woo is the past president of the Charity Cultural Services Center, on the Board of Directors of the Western Advisory Board for Project HOPE International, and a founder of the Chinese Consolidated Women's Association in 1999 and the Woo Benevolent Family Association Women's Auxiliary in 2002.

The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism is California's national service commission, charged with the administration of AmeriCorps and connecting Californians in their communities through service. Members do not receive a salary. These positions do not require Senate confirmation.